THE STORY OF THE SUN.

L. THE FIRST SUN.

The 3d of September, 1833, was a Tuesday. On that morning a Yankee job printer from Springfield, Mass., whose business had been almost ruined by the hard times and the cholera of the preceding year, issued the first number of THE SUN. The name of this young printer was Benjamin H. Day.

Day hired a ground floor room, twelve by sixteen, in the building at 222 William street. The house stands now as it stood then. Any-body who may be curious to inspect the birthplace and first home of THE SUN newspaper, san find it on the east side of the street, just north of the great archway under the approach to the Brooklyn Bridge. Here Day set up his press, a rude hand affair, somewhat less primie in construction and sluggish in movement than the machine which Benjamin Franklin had worked a century before. The press was capa-ble of throwing off two hundred impressions an hour-about three Sun's a minute. Day's capital consisted of his craft, no dollars, and a very inconsiderable stock of enthusiasm. The equipment was made up of the odds and ends of an unprosperous job office. The entire working force of the establishment, physical and intellectual, was supplied by one man and one boy. The first newsboy who ever sold a copy of the THE SUN in the streets of New York became famous and rich. He was ten years old, and from

Cork. His name was Bernard Flaherty, but he

was afterward known as Barney Williams, the

How large was that first edition of THE SUN? In his "History of Journalism in the United States," Mr. Frederic Hudson says that three hundred copies were printed; but Mr. Hudson's book is frequently inaccurate in statements of fact. Mr. Day, the founder of THESUN, is still living. His recollection is that even in the earliest days of the newspaper he never printed less than a thousand copies. Possibly that Mr. Day's memory is at fault, so far as the experimental first number is concerned. He was not at all sanguine about the result of the venture. His main idea was to advertise his job office and build up a business in hand-bill printing. He never dreamed that the ridiculous little sheet was to revolutionize the newspaper press of the country. The established sixpenny newspapers of that time averaged hardly 2,000 copies apiece. Moreover, Mr. Day did not begin to print the first SUN until the other papers were out and on sale. He had procured a copy of the Courier and Enquirer, had seissored out the news of the morning, and had put it into type with his own fingers before the little hand press at 222 William street be gan to clippity-clank. At the rate at which that piece of mechanism produced newspapers it is obvious that nearly all the forenoon would have elapsed before Mr. Day could strike off a

thousand copies. But whether the circulation of the first Sun was three hundred, or five hundred, or a thousand, it made a hit, and there was no difficulty about selling the next day's paper at one cent a copy. The proprietor was not less surprised than satisfied when he counted over the three four, five, or six dollars that constituted the gross receipts of the establishment for the day. The people were pleased to get anything in the shape of a newspaper for one-sixth the price of the blanket dailies. And from that morning until this. THE SUN has not ceased to shine.

Just what the subscriber or casual purchases may be seen in the fac simile reproduction of THE SUN of Sept. 3, 1833 which accompanies THE SUN of Sept. 3, 1883. The prospectus is brief and satisfactory: "The object of this paper is to lay before the public, at a price within the means of every one, ALL THE NEWS OF THE DAY, and at the same time afford an advantageous medium for advertising." Subscription, in advance, was \$3 a year. Yearly advertisers were to be accommodated with ten lines every day for \$30 per annum-ten cents a day, or one cent a line.

All the advertisements that appeared in the first Sun were borus—that is to say, they were cut from other newspapers and printed grasemblance of prosperity in this department some of the advertisements are interesting Commodore Vanderbilt offers to carry passengers "through by daylight" from New York to Hartford for a dollar on his "splandid low-pressure steamboat Water Witch;" time of passage, thirteen hours. E. K. Collins has not yet organ ized his famous line of swift American steamers to Liverpool; he advertises the "very fast sailing coppered ship Nashville" for New Orleans. A private family on Broadway, near Canal street, and another on Temple street, near Liberty, want sixth annual fair. The low-pressure steamboat Hercules makes excursions twice a week to Sandy Hook and the Fishing Banks, and bai is furnished on board. The mail stage between Boston and Lynn has been robbed, a Portsmouth bank losing \$14.500 in bills; for the recovery of the bills and the arrest of the thieves reward of \$1,000 is offered. A Cathorine street pawnbroker will sell at auction his unredeemed pledges, including watches and sadirons, vests, pantaloons, trowsers, gowns, frocks, and spysisses. Liberty street is to be widened. Lackswanns coal is \$6.50 a ton: the long ton of 2,240 pounds is giving way to the ton of twenty hundred weight. John Jacob Astor is one of the Directors of the Globe Insurance Company; William B. Astor, of the North River Insurance Company. John A. Dix s Secretary of State, and he advertises an eletion at which is submitted to the people a Constitutional amendment enabling the citizens of New York to elect their own Mayor. An academy on Staten Island educates young gentlemen for \$25 a quarter, including board.

It will be observed that, with the exception of a batch of Police Court items, all the local news is two and three days old. There is not much of it. The melancholy suicide of a young man from Boston, "of engaging manners and amia-ble disposition," furnishes matter for the leading article on the editorial page. Two stores on Exchange place have been broken open "by some villain or villains," and robbed of \$100. The city is "nearly full of strangers from all parts of this country and Europe." News from outside of New York is from six to twenty-nine days old. The freshest item is about a fire at Rochester nearly a week before. There is a report of "an outrageous and cold-blooded murder" at Columbus. Ohio, nineteen days earlier. An account of the opening of an important murder trial at Easton, Pa., had been ten days in getting across New Jersey. That year, like this, was a cholera year, and there are a couple of items and one humorous anec dote about the plague. "All the news of the day" had come to New York in sailing ships and in stage coaches.

You may see for yourself what the first Sun was like. Behind Ben Day and his ramshackle press was a great idea. There had been several penny papers before THE SUN. The Cent had lived a short life in Philadelphia in 1830. The Bostonian had failed to get a foothold in Boston. The Morning Post, published by a firm in which Horace Greeley was partner, had appeared in New York sight months ahead of THE SUN. The Morning Post was sold at first for two cents, and afterward for one cent; it survived for twenty-one days. THE SUN was the first penny paper in America that came to stay. It was pioneer journal of the low-priced press Its swift and astonishing success knocked the its out from under the journalism of the first half of this century. It opened a new field for newspaper enterprise. Its appearance was the I think there was a Sur in London than: at

Of all the morning papers that existed in New York before the first Sun was published, only one is still alive. That one is the venerable and highly esteemed Journal of Commerce. How many of the seven hundred thousand dally readers of THE SUN have over seen a copy of the Journal of Commerce?

IL-THE NEW YORK OF FIFTY YEARS AGO.

Now, try to reconstruct from a few scattering facts the New York of the first year of THE Sun's existence. Then all the cities of the United States together had not so many inhabitants as now live on this island. In 1833 the population of New York city was about a quarter of a million; by the census of 1830 it was 202,589, and by the census of 1835 it was 270,089. The town was nearly as big as the Cincinnati of to-day-somewhat larger than San Francisco is at present, or New Orleans. But New York was then, as now, the chief city of the land.

During the first year of THE SUN, Oliver Wendell Holmes and John Greenleaf Whittier wrote poetry which was printed in these columns, and the Harper Brothers regularly advertised their new books. That seems to bring 1833 pretty near to us. Other facts carry t away back into the half-forgotten past. The age of steam was just beginning; the age of electricity was far in the future. There were a few steamboats on the rivers and sounds. In 1833 there were in all the United States 380 miles of railroad in operation, against about 107,000 miles at the beginning of 1883. Some of these roads were carrying passengers. The Erie Canal had been open only eight years.

Gas had been introduced and was in partial use. The corner stone of the Astor House was laid that year. The Third avenue improvement was just opening communication with Harlsem: and THE SUN was saying: "This splendid McAdamized road is at once the pride and the ornament of our city. Rome, the proud mistress of the world, constructed her Applan, her Claudian, and Flamminian ways, which stood for almost twenty centuries. New York, if she continues to increase as she has, is destined to become, in a few centuries hence, even greater than Rome herself, and it is the duty I the fathers of our city to carry on to perfection these noble improvements the present avenue system) on a scale correspondent with the high destiny that awaits our city." The New York streets were very flithy. To the Honorable the Corporation of the City and County of New York, THE SUN on May 15, 1834, addressed this note: "The Cholera sends its compliments to your honorable body and begs to inform you that it will pay your city a visit in a few weeks. It would have been along before now, but it is detained in one of the Southwestern States for the present. In the mean time it begs your honorable body not to permit the streets of the city to be cleansed and purified." Sandy Gibson's, on the East River, near where the foot of Tenth street is, was away out of town: the boys used to travel thither to go in swimming. The milestone at Rivington street and the Bowery, one mile from the City Hall, was far up town. The fashionable residence quarter was in State street and in the neighborhood of the Battery. The Seventh ward was a sent of solid respectability. Preserved Fish and many of the old settlers lived East Broadway long after 1834.

One clerk in the New York Post Office distributed "the great Southern mail," the Northern mail and the Eastern mail as fast as they came in. In 1836 it was thought necessary to appoint "one or two active and intelligent young men to learn the business, and thus releve the present clerk."

Andrew Jackson was President of the United States. William L. Marcy was Governor of New York State. The Hon. Cornelius W. Lawence was elected Mayor of New York city that year-the first Mayor elected in this town by popular vote under the new Constitutional Amendment.

The city directory, published a few months after the birth of THE SUN, showed that there were then in New York 529 lawyers, 530 doctors, 130 ministers and 132 churches, 619 men named Smith, 28 banks, of which 4 were savings banks: 41 insurance offices, and 14 public markets. The directory of 1883 shows hat the churches have increased in numbe from 132 to 370, the savings banks from 4 to 24. and the Smiths from 619 to 3,267.

The aggregate daily circulation of the eleven morning and evening newspapers published in New York city when THE SUN appeared was less than 30,000. THE SUN alone now prints nearly five times that number of papers every morning in the year. There is reason for ac cepting as approximately accurate the following estimates of the circulation of the other

New York newspapers early in 1834: MORNING PAPERS.

	Morning Courier and New York Enquirer	4.
I	Democratic Chronicle	4
ı	New York Standard	2,
	New York Journal of Commerce	2,
Į	New York Gasette and General Advertiser	1,
	New York Daily Advertiser	1.
	Mercantile Advertiser and New York Advocate	1.
	EVENING PAPERS,	
	The Evening Post.	3.
	The Evening Star	2.
	New York Commercial Advertiser	2,
	New York American	1

These newspapers occupied the field which THE SUN invaded. They were, without exception, sold for six cents a copy. They formed a class of which the Journal of Commerce is the sole surviving example. Most of them were blanket sheets, vexatious to handle and unsatisfactory to read. They depended largely for support upon the advertisements of the New York merchants, paid for by the year and at very low rates. The leading morning journals were Gen. James Watson Webb's Courier and Enquirer, and Hale and Hallock's Journa of Commerce. The Post, the most important of the evening papers, was edited by William Cullen Bryant and William Leggett, two poets who have been very differently treated by Fame Gen. Webb of the Courier and Enquirer used t style them the "chanting cherubs of the Post." The leading morning papers had begun to show some enterprise in the pursuit of news. They owned fast clipper yachts which raced to sea to meet the incoming European mails. In 1833 the Journal of Commerce established pony express in eight relays between New York and Philadelphia, thus enabling itself to print the proceedings of Congress one day ahead o its rivals. The Courier and Enquirer had left the Democratic party the year before and was then a Whig organ. The Journal of Commerc. sympathized strongly with the Abelitionists. THE SUN WAS just one month old when the firs of the Abolition Riots occurred in Chatham street, hard by the Tammany Hall of that day the building now owned and occupied by TH: Sun Printing and Publishing Association.

III .- MR. DAY'S REMINISCENCES.

The original proprietor, editor, publisher, compositor, pressman, and mailing clerk of THE BUN is still able to read and enjoy this newspaper, although he wishes that it was printed in type at least as big as long primer. "Mr. Day," we asked, "how did you happen to

choose the name you gave the paper?" "I didn't," said he. "It was Dave Ramsey's idea. Ramsey was a journeyman in the Journal of Commerce office when I worked there in 1829 or 1830. He was forever talking about starting a penny paper to be called THE BUN.

"Then you had the notion three or four years

oefore you began the paper?"
"O yes, and everybody used to laugh at me, About that time I worked on the Journal of Commerce and the Mercantile Advertiser with a printer pamed Abell. He and I were very good When I projected THE SUN I struck off the headline for the paper and took it down to the Mercantile Advertiser office to show to Abell. He made no end of fun of it. Every time he met me he would say, 'Well, Day, how is that Penny SUN? Ha, ha; ho, ho!" His jokes on the Penny Sun were eternal."

Mr. Day's friend Abell, the journeyman printer, who made himself merry over the idea of a penny Sun, is the gentleman referred to in the following paragraph, now going the rounds: Mr. A. S. Abell, the owner of the Baltimore Sun, which paper he has conducted for forty-seven years, celebrated the seventy-seventh anniversary of his birth at Guilford, near Hallimore, on Friday evening.

The Guilford here mentioned is the famous McDonald estate, near Baltimore. It was purchased about ten years ago by Mr. Abell for \$475,000, part of the profits of the second successful application of the panny Sun idea.

"Another journeyman printer in those days," continued Mr. Day, "was William M. Swain. He took a more melancholy view than Abell of the prospects of THE SUN; it was sure to ruin me. Afterward he was my foreman. He went to Philadelphia and Baltimore with Abell, owned the Public Ledger for years, made a fortune, and died a drunkard." "On how much capital was THE SUN

started ?" The old gentleman looked up with astonisment. "Capitai!" said he. "Bless you, I hadn't any money. I had no capital except my job office. I always managed to pay my hands on Saturday night but that was out of the week's earnings. For a long time the principal object of the newspaper was to advertise my job office. It did help me in that way. When I got the printing of the American Museum to do I thought myself so lucky that I rather neglected the newspaper." Who were with you at the beginning?"

"I wrote and edited the first number myself, and set it up, too. There was a boy there; I don't remember his name. I called in a jour. printer by the name of Parmiee to help work off the edition. I am pretty sure I printed a housand copies that morning." "Mr. Hudson says in his book that the first

ditor of The Sun was a Mr. Benton." "There was a Benton, or Benson, a journeynan printer, who worked for me a few weeks. He never was editor."

The humorous police magistrate, now rather tiresomely familiar to newspaper readers, especially at the West, came out strong in the early numbers of THE SUN. "You made a feature at first of the Police Court reports," we remarked to Mr. Day.

"That was my idea. The way was this: George W. Wisner, a young printer who was out of work, had a knack for writing. The paper had been going about a week when Wisner came and said if I would give him \$4 ; week he would get up early every morning and do these police reports. The court was held at four o'clock in the morning in a long yellow building where the County Court House now is. He agreed to attend them regularly and write out what was interesting, beside working daytimes at setting type and doing whatever else he could. I thought the police tems would be a considerable feature, and they proved to be. Wisner did them so well that I made a new arrangement with him. He was still to have \$4 a week, but I agreed that if the paper was a success we would share the profits.

I retaining his share until it amounted to nough to pay for half of the establishment Wisner and Bonton used to set up the paper. used to get up before the sun and buy early copies of all the morning papers and select the news we wanted; but that was only at the start Ranton he wanted an interest in Till Sun, too; he couldn't get it, and he left. Along in the spring of 1834 the profits had paid Wisner's share, and he was joint proprietor

'Was Wisner a good man?"

"He was a pretty smart fellow," said Mr. Day, with something between a sigh and a on polities. You see, I was rather Demogratic n my notions; Wisner, whenever he got a chance, was always sticking in his d-d little Abolitionist articles.'

Sure enough, the early files of THE SUN show pretty copious sprinking of the little Abo itionist paragraphs that Wisner used to stick in, to the exasperation of his partner. Here is a sample:

ing of Slavery's chains will be heard no more—and America will stand before the world practising as well as preaching the glorious doctrine that all men are reated free and equal.

"We quarrelled, Wisner and L." continued Mr. Day. "I gave up my job office and kep the paper, paying him \$5,000 in cash for his

"Do you know what became of Mr. Wisner?" "He went out West and settled at Pontine Michigan. He became a man of some promi nence there. He acquired considerable properly, I believe, and was a member of the State Legislature. But he died young."

"Who were some of the other writers for the paper in your time. Mr. Day?"

Among other editors I had a man named Bartlett, He was from Newark. I think he went to Beach when THE SUN passed out of my hands. Then I had Horatio S. Weld, who is now a clergyman. For several years after Wisner left I employed William M. Prail, a very useful reporter. He reported all the courts There was a young lawyer in New York then whom I had to write leaders for me named Lucius C. Robinson-Governor Robinson. He seemed to be a young man of excellent ideas

but not very highly educated." "Then there was Richard Adams Locke, the

Moon Hoax man ?' O, yes, Locke. I'll tell you how the Moor Hoax came about. In the early part of 1835, a half-cracked fellow, who called himself Matthias the Prophet, was tried for murder up in White Plains. There was great excitement over the trial. We wanted to get good report. I went up to White Plains. and in the court room met Locke, who was reporting for the Courier and Enquirer He seemed smart, and I engaged him to write a full account of the case. We printed it, first n the paper and then in a pamphlet, and it sold like sixty, at three cents a copy. Locke used to drink a good deal. He came to me after the Matthias affair and pretended that Webb had discharged him for writing for THE SUN. Then he proposed to write the moon story. As the Matthias pamphlet had been a success, I let him do it. The moon story puzzled everybody for a time. Even the astronomers didn't know what to make of it. You know, it purported to be an account from an Etinburgh magazine of Herschell's discoveries in the moon with a big telescope at the Cape of Good Hope, Well 1 remember we had a deputation from Yale College come to the office and request to see the original copy of the magazine article. I pretended to be vastly indignant that they should doubt our word. 'I suppose the magazine is somewhere up stairs, said I, but I consider imost an insuit that you should ask to see it."

They went back to New Haven apparently perfeetly satisfied." "Didn't one of the New York papers discover the hoax ?' Yes; the secret got out through Locke's

own fault. The Journal of Commerce had

reporter named Finn, who was intimate with Locke. The Journal of Commerce had swal-

lowed the whole story. Hallock had put it in

signal for the slow death of the ponderous sixpennies.

any rate, the name had struck Dave. I got the morning. What must Locke do but get tipsy with him that very night! 'Better not print it right away,' he told Finn. 'I wrote it myself.' The Journal of Commerce then came out and lenounced the Discoveries in the Moon as a faprication."

NEW YORK, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1883.

"How much did you pay for the Moon Hoax?" "I paid between \$500 and \$600. That was more than the sum first agreed upon, which was \$300. Locke made something in addition by selling lithographs of the scenery and animals in the moon. The story was so clever that it attracted attention all over the world. It gave THE SUN a great impetus."
"Did Locke do much-else for you?"

"He got up a good many things that were very telling for us. He was a finished writer. I used to pay him \$12a week for writing leaders -a column a day. He would have been a firstrate man but for drink. Poor Locke! he drank nimself to death."

"Did you have any partner after Wiener?" "No: I owned the whole concern till I sold it

to Beach. From June, 1837, to June, 1838, you took down your name as publisher and proprietor. "O, that was merely in consequence of some libel suits."

"How was THE SUN distributed to its read-

Why, I introduced the newsboy system. There was no such thing in New York before THE SUN was started; no papers were sold in the streets. I hired four or five boys at \$2 a week aplece, gave them, say, a hundred papers each, and sent them out to sell all they could If they managed to dispose of more than a hundred papers I paid them so much extra. I ran this system some time before I set up carriers with regular routes. Sam Messenger was the first carrier who took hold of The Sun. He had the Fulton Market district. Sam afterward went into the livery stable business, and made a pile of money. Other carriers took the idea and got up routes. They used to buy the papers of me for one-third off-sixty-seven cents a hundred if they paid in advance, but if they had the papers on trust I made them pay seventy-five cents a hundred."

"Your expenses could not have been very heavy in those days," Well, not at first. After the paper was solidly established I employed three compos-

tors. Two of them split off and started another penny paper, the Transcript. It was a long time before I got any advertising to speak of. I put advertisements in, of course, to give THE SUN the look of a daily newspaper, but they wern't paid for. There were times when receipt were less than expenses; and then, again, I nade as high as \$20,000 a year. When I sold out to Beach I was running behind about \$50 a day, barring advertisements; with the advertisements I was just about paying expenses."

Moses Y. Beach was a relative of yours?" "He married my sister. The Beaches were Connecticut people. He supplied me with white paper. Finally he failed up in Sauger ies and came into the office as a clerk."

How much did you sell THE SUN for ?" 'Forty thousand dollars." And after 1838 you had no connection, di-

ect or indirect, with its management?" 'No, the Beach family had it all to themselves. When I heard that Dana was going to take hold of THE SUN I was glad. 'Dana'l nake a newspaper of it,' I said. 'The Beaches have been running it down. Dana'll make a great paper of it!' Well, he has. But you tell him to have THE SUN set in big type."

The old gentleman l'ted one leg off the sushion which it had been occupying, and la-boriously hoisted the other into the soft place. The silliest thing I wardlid in my life," said he, reflectively, "was to sell that paper."

IV.-SOME CURIOUS PRISES OF AN-CIENT JOURNALISM.

It is enough to-make a modern journalist eel faint to look over some of the newspapers that were perused with avidity by the worthy public of the first half of the present century We have already seen that Mr. Benjamin H. Day had not the vaguest conception of what he was doing when he led the way into the age of cheap newspapers and cheap reading. The editor of that time either was a party politician, with his soul absorbed in intrigues, small or great, and his mind devoted to fine writing or he was a practical printer, with his better eye fixed firmly on the job office. News was alto gether an incidental matter. If it came within each and got into the paper, so much the moruck for the news.

Day had the wit to perceive that local news s always interesting, and rather a good adverisement for an establisment competing for the handbill business. His local news was ener-getically selssored from the columns of his eseemed contemporaries, or else picked up about town by the editors, compositors, and carriers of THE SUN wherever they chanced to encoun ter it. He even attempted to lend additional charm to his New York city intelligence by in-

vesting it with headlines like these: Double Distilled Villains ! Cursed Effects of Drunkenuess: A Bold Villain! Another Theft!

Awful Occurrence! Infamous Affair! Arrest of an Arch Villain! Horrid Transaction Outrage on a Post Office!

Gathered in this manner, it is not surprising that much of the local news was from two to ten days old before it reached the early readers of THE SUN. For example: On Wednesday morning, Feb. 2, 1836:

Three persons were buried alive in digging a cellar in Jackson street, Brooklyn, on Friday. Five days from Jackson street, Brooklyn, to

22 William. Here is what was regarded, in June, 1834, as a full and satisfactory account of an event that would now put half the reporters in New York on the jump:

We understand that a duel was fought at Hoboken or Friday morning last, between a gentleman from Canada and a French gentleman of this city, in which the latter was wounded. The parties should be arrested.

Sometimes THE SUN branched out into what s now known as special or descriptive reporting. In May, 1834, Mr. Day sent an ambassado to explore the wickedness of the Five Points. The chronicle is so delightfully naive that I wish I could print it all. There is room only for the first paragraph:

A Visit to the Pice Points.—Actuated by a curiosity to see this section of the city in all its details of misery and crime, we accompanied a Police Officer the other day for the purpose of making a thorough examination of these haunts of iniquity, which have become so infamously calebrated. And although we had heard much before concerning it, yet, in the language of the Queen of Sheba, "the half had not been told us."

A good illustration of the early Sun's way of treating local events of the first magnitude is forded in its reports of the great fire of Dec. 16, 1835. This conflagration, which destroyed about twenty millions' worth of property and 530 buildings, broke out near Hanover square at nine o'clock on Wednesday night, and lasted until one o'clock on Thursday afternoon. A post script to THE SUN of Thursday morning said:

A TREMENDOUS CONFLAGRATION to now raging i the lower part of the city. The Merchants' Exchange is in flames. Nearly all the blocks in the triangle bounded by William and Wall streets and the East River are con sumed! Several hundred buildings are already down, and the firemen have given out. God only knows where the fire will be arrested.

That was all. On Priday morning, thirty three hours after the fire broke out. THE SU gave its readers what is equivalent to less than a column and a half of our local matter now. This report, if it can be called a report, was under the head. "AWFUL CALAMITY-UN-PRECEDENTED CONFLAGRATION."

work of Prall, or of Richard Adams Locks, or of Lucius C. Robinson? Here are three specimon passages:

theatre of a great and productive commerce; where en-terprise and wealth energized with bold and command. ing efforts, now sits despondency is saekcloth, and s wide and dreary waste of desolation reigns.

It seemed as if a God were running in his anger and sweeping away with the besom of his wrath the proudest monuments of man. Destruction travelled and tri umphed on every breeze, and billows of fire rolled over and buried in their burning bosoms the hopes and the fortunes of thousands. Like the devouring element when it fed on Muscow's palaces and towers, it was lit erally a "sea of fire," and the terrors of that night of woe and ruin rolling years will not be able to efface.

The merchants of the First Ward, like Marius in the uins of Carthage, sit with melancholy moans, gazing at the graves of their fortunes, and the mournful mes of the dreadful devastation that reigns.

On Saturday THE SUN printed a column more about the fire, and on Monday it gave a map of the burnt district. The first tolerably completelist of sufferers (without the figures of their losses) appeared on Tuesday, the sixth morning after the event.

News from outside of New York, domestic

andforeign, was proportiona tely older and colder. Syracuse too, had its great fire on March 16, 1834. That was Sunday. On the next Friday THE SUN said: Unfortunate,-We learn by the Western papers that a

nost calamitous fire occurred at Syracuse (one of the most flourishing towns of Western New York) on Sunday last which consumed all the buildings on each side of the canal between the Canal Bridges. The loss of proj erty is estimated at TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND

A New Orleans steamboat accident of April 26 s recorded in THE SUN of May 13-seventeen days from New Orleans to 222 William street. News about the cholera in Little Rock, Arkansas Territory, is dated April 22 and printed May 23-thirty-one days from Little Rock to 222 William street. The resignation of the Duc de Broglie, one of the French Ministry, occurred on April 1 and was printed on May 5-thirty four days from Paris to 222 William street Even Washington was four or five days away. Tuesday's paper, and sometimes Wednes-day's, had the first brief intelligence for New Yorkers of the proceedings of Congress on the preceding Friday. The news from other States and from abroad slowly flitered ir, through the courtesy of pursers and stage-coach drivers, through private letters communicated to the editor by his friends in business, and through the mail bag with its bundle of exchanges.

For years there was no formal distinction between editorial and news matter. The paper was a jumble of news items, with occasional comments interjected by the printer, advertisements, and miscellaneous reading ranging from anecdotes out of Plutarch to jokes out of Joe Miller. The point of view was always that of the practical printer. A Sunday newspaper called the Guest is started in Boston.
"This is too bad!" remarks Mr. Day. "The poor printer should certainly be allowed one

When Day circulated his Sun there were no great news companies, no news stands on every other corner, no newsboys swarming on the payement. Subscribers paid the carrier, daily at first afterward at the end of every week. When the paper had been running for about two months three carriers served the whole city of New York. Here is a proud announcement made in November, 1833:

To our Patrons.—We are making arrangements to have The Bus delivered by men, when those desirous can de-pend upon being regularly served. Persons east of the lowery to Division street are informed that a faithful man to serve between Broadway and Bowery, and be ween Broadway and Chatham street.

Six months later the leading article in the paper of May 29, 1834, was as follows:

To Subscribers .- The route between Broadway and Mc Dougal street, from Canal up to Parade Ground [Wash ington squarel, will hereafter be served by Mr. David Earls. The old carrier, Stephen Noyes, has been dis nissed because of his institution to business and intem perate habits.

Here are two advertisements, characteristic of the time, from THE SUN of June 3, 1834: A CARD-TO BUTCHERS.—Mr. Stamler having re-ired to private life would be glad to see his friends, the

SIX CENTS REWARD.—Run away from the sub-scriber, on the 30 of May, Charles Eldridge, an indented apprentice to the Segar Making business, about 10 years of age, 4 feet high, broken back. Had on, when he left, a round jacket and blue pantaleons. The above reward and no charges will be paid for his delivery to John Diaben, No. 354 Bowery.

One year carried the daily edition of the nex penny paper up to 10,000. THE SUN then chalany newspaper in the United States to exhibit a circulation so large." Another year nearly doubled the circulation again. Now it was "the largest of any daily paper in the world, the edition of the London Times being only 17,000." In August, 1835, the establish ment was removed from William street to 156 Nassau, at the corner of Spruce. Here is the schedule of circulation for Aug. 28, 1835, just about two years after the paper was started:

Regular subscribers in Brooklyn..... old at the Markets, Ac .. In Providence, Albany, and other places

10,360 It took ten hours to strike off this edition on a double cylinder Napier press, made by Robert Hoe & Co. At that time the size of THE SUN was twice as large as at the beginning, and half as large as now. White paper cost fourfifths of a cent for every copy. Mr. Day bought a new press, with a capacity of 3,000 an hour. and ran it by steam. His ideas were growing bigger. He was now able to print advertise ments "if handed in before six o'clock in the afternoon." On New Year's Day, 1836, he said: We are now enabled to print considerably more than 22,000 copies on both sides in less than eight hours. No other establishment in this country possesses such

facilities. Our circulation is now double the whole list of respectable sixpennies" combined. THE WEEKLY SUN was established on Jan. 16, 1836. It was sold for two cents a copy, or \$1.50 a year.

The cut of an eagle, which adorned the headline of the original Sun, gave place in a few weeks to a printing press over a cloudy globe; and this device in its turn was supplanted in 1835 by the sun rising over the mountains, when the popular motto, "It Shines for All,"

In June, 1838, when Day sold the concern to Moses Y. Beach, the circulation was from 25,000 to 30,000. About 400 reams of paper were used weekly, and the total expenses of the establishment were \$1,500 a week.

V.-FROM 1838 TO 1868.

The changes in the management of THE SUN during the fifty years of its existence are shown

in the subjoined table; 1. Benjamin II. Day 2. Benjamin H. Day and George W. Wisner Jan.
 5. Benjamin H. Day
 June 27, 1835

 4. Moses Y. Beach
 June 28, 1838

 5. M. Y. Beach and Sons
 Oct. 22, 1845

 6. Beach Brothers [Moses S. and Alfred E.] Dec. 4, 1848
 7. Moses S. Beach, Sole Proprietor April 6, 1852 S. William C. Church, Publisher Aug. 6, 1860 S. Anonymous Management Dec. 10, 1860 10. Moses S. Beach Jan. 1, 1802 11. Charles A. Dans, Editor Jan. 27, 1808 Mr. Day managed THE SUN for about five

years; the elder Beach, for ten years; the Seach brothers, for four years; Moses S. Beach, alone, for fourteen years; a wealthy and pious young gentleman whose name will appear further on, for about a year and a half. The present Administration is now in the second balf of its sixteenth year.

contained much ambitious writing. Was it the | It is not the purpose of this article to follow

the newspaper's career, in detail, down to date, The chief interest of the present anniversary lies in the contrast between the early Sun and THE SUN of to-day. The intervening period was full of activity and energy, for it witnessed the gradual development of the methods of collecting news, and of making and distributing newspapers, that still prevail. The Beaches, father and sone, showed enterprise as newsgatherers and skill as publishers. In their sharp competition with the other live newspapers that followed THE SUN and the Herald, they organized pony and pigeon despatches ocomotive expresses from Boston and else where, sent fleet yachts to sea to meet the European steamers, scoured New York for the name of the town as they understood it helped to found the Associated Press, and were quick to avail themselves of the electric telegraph when it was introduced. As a vehicle of opinion, the value of THE SUN in their time was almost absolutely nil.

In the summer of 1842 Mr. Moses Y. Beach sold the building in Nassau and Spruce streets and removed the establishment to the southwest corner of Fulton and Nassau, in the ediice that now shelters the fortunes of the Commercial Advertiser. For a quarter of a century THE SUN office was there. Its bulletin board glared at that of the Herald, on the opposite corner. The contest between the two establishments for the first publication of the news was keen and continuous. When a steamer arrived at New York or Boston out came the Extra Suns. requently adorned with a huge cut of the vesse n question, floating upon waves that looked as f they had been carefully combed. The pigeon house that contained Mr. Beach's carriers may still be seen on the roof of the Commercial Adpertiser building.

The increased editions of the newspaper and the need of quick work in the press room stimulated the ingenuity of the machinists. The Hoes turned out press after press for the Beaches, and each new press was a new marvel. In 1853, when the establishment celebrated its twentieth anniversary, the circulation elaimed for THE SUN was over 55,000 a day. The "two gigantic steam presses" of that time each printed 10,000 copies an hour. The expenses of the establishment were said to be something under \$150,000 a year for paper and \$80,000 for salaries, &c., in all the departments. Type cost \$10,000 a year, a new font being required about once every eight weeks. THE WEEKLY SUN, at \$1 a year, rejoiced in a headline cut made up of a grotesque jumble of pyramids, elephants, mosques, idols, Egyptians, and red Indians. In 1848 an edition called THE AMERICAN SUN was published for circulation in England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales, at twelve shillings sterling a year. There was also an edition for California, In 1850, from July to December, an EVENING SUN was printed, omitting the advertisements of the morning edition and adding the telegraphic news received during the day. Mr. Moses Y. Beach died in 1868. Mr. Moses S. Beach is still living. The period between August, 1860, and De-

ember, 1861, furnishes a curious episode in the history of this newspaper. Archibald M. Morrison, a religious enthusiast, had inherited tha name together with several hundred thousand dollars. He was prompted by certain other religious enthusiasts to buy THE SUN, and to put it under the control of Mr. William C. Conant as an evangelical daily. Mr. Beach retained the ownership of THE SUN building and plant, down to every quoin and penholder, Morrison agreeing to pay him \$100,000 for the good will of the newspaper, and to rent of him the material part of the establishment. The pious gentlemen. I believe, paid one and perhaps two in stallments of Morrison's \$100,000, but although they used to held prayer meetings every day at noon in a little antercom off the editorial rooms, their newspaper career was brief. Col. William C. Church figured for about four months as the publisher of the evangelical Sun. Being a man of sense, he soon found it pleasant to go to Europe. The journalistic theories of the extraordinary syndicate were morbidly apparent in the tone of the newspaper; and one morning a disgusted subscriber chalked in huge letters on the door of the publication office this legend:

BE YE NOT RIGHTEOUS OVERMUCH!

The management was soon over ears in difficulties, and although a meeting was held in Apollo Hall for the express purpose of devising means to "keep THE SUN out of the hands of the worldlings," Mr. Beach resumed control at

the beginning of 1862. There are men still actively employed in the service of this and other newspapers as editors. reporters, and printers whose experience covers almost the whole history of THE SUN. For example, Mr. James G. Cooper, who as a schoolboy played the truant in order to peddle Day's pamphlet about Matthias the Prophet, was with the Beaches throughout their time and is now an esteemed employee of our nextdoor neighbor, the Tribune. One of THE SUN'S compositors, Mr. Leonard Fields, has worked continuously for this newspaper since 1845. He is now in his eighty-second year.

THE SUN has varied very much in size from time to time, but was sold for one cent a copy until late in the war. On Aug. 1, 1864, it announced that the price would be "one cent in gold, or two cents in currency."

In the first ten years of THE SUN not less than 65 daily imitators sprang up and perished. There was a True Sun in 1835, another True Sun in 1841, another True Sun in 1843, and a Citizen and True Sun in 1815. Since 1833 about one hundred and twenty-five one and two cent newspapers have been started in New York.

FL-THE SUN AS IT IS.

THE SUN of to-day is known to everybody. In the minds of everybody the newspaper is completely identified with its present management and methods. THE SUN's past is full of curious interest in the historical sense. THE SUN of now is a living fact and a ceaseless

In 1867 Mr. Charles A. Dana organized THE Sun Printing and Publishing Association. which bought THE SUN newspaper for \$175,000 and the present Sun property for \$150,000, and invested, say, \$175,000 more in the plant. The establishment, as it stands to-day, has cost the proprietors about \$600,000. Are you curious to see the names of some of

and Publishing Association? Charles A. Dana, Roscoe Conkling, Wm. M. Evarts,

Thos. Hitchcock, A. B. Cornell, Cyrus W. Field, Isaac W. England, E. D. Morgan, E. C. Cowdin, Chas. S. Weyman, Aug. L. Brown, M. O. Roberts.

George Opdyke, Amos R. Eno.

E. D. Smith.

S. B. Chittenden, A. A. Low.

F. A. Palmer.

Freeiman Clarke, Charles E. Butler. E. D. Smith, S. B. Chittenden, A. A. Low, F. A. Palmer, Freeman Clarke, Charles E. Butler, William H. Webb, Thomas Murphy, Dorman B. Eaton.

the original stockholders of THE SUN Printing

The great idea of Day's Sun was cheapness to the buyer. The great idea of THE SUN as it is was and is interest to the reader. Few except professional newspaper makers can fully ap preciate the revolution which the modern SUN as wrought within the past sixteen years in the theory and practice of journalism. There is scarcely a successful daily newspape started since 1868 which was not modelled after THE SUN of to-day. There is hardly daily newspaper in America, with an exist ence antedating 1868, which has not modifled its manner and methods, more or less, according to the new journalism in which THE SUN was the pioneer. No wasted words, no nonsense, plain, outspoken expressions of honest opinion, the abolishment of the conventional measures of news importance. the substitution of the absolute standard of

real interest to human beings, bright and eniovable writing, wit, philosophical good humor, intolerance of humbug, hard hitting from the shoulder on proper occasions-do we not see all these qualities now in our esteemed contemporaries on every side of us, and in every

The days on which the circulation of THE SUN has been highest, exceeding 175,000 copies. are here shown, together with the actuating

event: Nov. 8, 1876.—Presidential election. Sept. 20, 1881.—Garfield's death Nov. 3, 1880.—Presidential election 212.525 July 13, 1871.—Orange riots. 102.224
Sept. 21, 1881.—Second day after Garfield's death 180,215 Nov. 3, 1875.—State and city election July 3, 1881.—Garfield assessmated 177.588

The experience of Isaac W. England in the business department of THE SUN has been almost co-extensive with that of Mr. Dana as editor.

THE SUN prints more than one million copies a week. Its edition proceeds from eight Bul-lock presses, one of which can be depended on to print 32,000 copies an hour. Last year the otal number of Suns produced in this estabishment and sold for each was 55,536,030. The amount of white paper actually used last year was 4,536,783 pounds. The cost of producing the 55,000,000 Suns was well up to a million dollars. THE SUN spends about \$17,000 a week before it gets a cent of profits. Its expenses for a single day have reached as high as \$8,000. An army of thousands of workers with brains and hands is concerned in its production and listribution. Its price is two cents a copy.

VIL-OTHER SUNS THAN OURS.

Besides this newspaper, there are in the United States and in the Dominion of Canada not less than 88 daily and weekly Suns. Of these 15 are daily and 73 weekly. The name is growing in popularity. Nearly seven-eighths of all the Suns in America have been established during the past twelve years: more than one-third of them all have been started within the past three years.

In preparing a list of esteemed namesakes and it is approximately complete down to the beginning of the present year-the standard newspaper directories of Bowell and of Hub-

bard have been of service.

It will be observed that of the 13 other daily Suns in the United States 7 are independent in politics, 3 Democratic, and 2 Republican, while one is a college publication. The papers are arranged in the order of their age, the dates showing the year of establishment:

	Sun
	Sun
	Republic and Sun Joliet, Ill
	Enquirer-Sun Jacksonville, Fin Dem 1858
	Sun
	Sun and Banner Williamsport, Pa Dem 1874
	Sun
	Sonne
	Sun
	Sun
	Cornell-Sun Ithaca, N. Y College 1880
	Sun
	Sun Stillwater, Minn Ind 1881
	Sun Winnipeg, Manitoba 1881
9	Sun Bellevere, Idaho Ind 1880

Weekly Suns are found all over the Union and in the British Provinces. There are six of these Suns in Michigan, in Pennsylvania, and in Wisconsin; five in Ohio; three in Illinois, in Indiana, in Massachusetts, in Tennessee, and in Texas; two in California, in Colorado, in Georgia, in Iowa, in Kentucky, in Mississippi, souri, in Nebraska, in New York, and in North Carolina: while the name is represented by a single newspaper in Alabama, Arkansas Louisiana, Minnesota, Oregon, South Caroina, Dakota, and New Movice. In the Domin-

ion of Canada there are seven weekly Suns. Of the 66 weekly namesakes of ours in the United States, 31 are independent, neutral, or indifferent, in politics, 22 are Democratic, and 9 Republican, while 2 advocate Greenback principles, 1 is professedly humorous, and 1 is religious. Two of them are older than THE SUN:

..... Pittsfield, Mass Dem ... 1802 Balavia, O. Dem ... 1808 Batavia, O Jackson, Tenn Raleigh, N. C. Orengeville, Ont Collisa, Cal Dem 1869 Baptist 1848 Dem Ind Rep Dem Winnsboro, La Sheboygan, Wis Dixon, 111 .Dem Ind... Saratoga, N. 1873 1873 1873 1873 1874 1874 Spring City, Pa Rep. Parish, N. Y...... Hilwaukee, Wis. Prek's Sun fississippi Sun. Hartwell, Ga Linden, Texas. Georgetown, Texas Dem Lowell, Mass Cherny, S. C furdy, Texas Infayette, Ain. Albany, Mo Cultertson, Neb Rep. Sunday Sun . Cleveland, Onto Seaforth, Out Sun and Northern Ad Twillinggate, N. F. Rocky Mountain Sun. Aspen. Col Three Oaks, Mich. Midland, Mich Fort Gratiot, Mich. Wasco County Sun The Dailes, Oregon Liverpool, Pa... Dodgeville, Wis. Int

Janesville, Wis.
Recifiedd, Dak.
Socorro, N. M.
Ingersoll, Ont.
Concord, Cai.
Ailegan, Mich.
Lattle Fails, Minn.
Meridian, Miss.
Wellsville, O.
London, From
Frankon, Mantoba. In other parts of the world Saus exist as fol-

lows:

Le Soleil Paris France Orleaniel organ. (Daily)

R Sole, Milan, Italy, Libersi. (D.)

Penbhakur (sun, Bonhay, Indo. Anglo-Marathi. (D.)

Penbhakur (sun, Inconta, Indo. Anglo-Marathi. (D.)

Sun and Porkshire Exchange and Mart, Huil, England. (Weekly.)

Sun, Ridderminster, England. (W.)

Sun, Ponly, England. (W.)

Sun, Ponly, England. (W.)

Mane Sun, Douglas 1sls of Man. (W.)

Aftal Punjah (Punjah Sun), Labore, India, Urda. (W.)

Lakrinekirania (Ceylon, Sun), Colombo, Ceylon, Cinghalese. (W.)

El Sol of Mage Bun of May. Leon, Mexico. (W.)
New Zealand Sta. Christeburel, New Zealand. (W.)
Telabana Seana (Haisa Sun. Golden Helizons. (S.W.)
El Sol Constantinople, Turkey, Hebrew and Spate

ii. (S. M.) Fr Hani (The Sun, Carmarthen, Walss, Religious, (M.) All of these Suns, American and foreign, big and little, shine brightly, no doubt, in their respective systems; and THE SUN shines for

Liked by the Men. Detested by the Women. Daisy McPherson, a pretty and shrowd young woman, can make herself remarkably attractive and amiable to the opposite sex; but her childish, affected way, while it "takes" with the men, makes her detected by the women. The bewitching Daisy is one of the characters in Mrs. Mary J. Holmes's delightful domestic story, Bessie's Fortune," now ready in the New York Weekly,

Smoke "Welcome" Cigarettes Wild, sweet, and delicate. Our new brand. Goodwin